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NEWS AND NOTES

ALPHA ZETA PI

Serious demands have been made upon the students of human society during this war, and even more serious demands are going to be made upon them in the period of social reconstruction which must come after the war. Unless students of society are prepared to furnish the social information which the world will need, unless they can show the same standards of scholarship, the same scientific detachment, with zeal for the truth and humanity, which the best students of the physical sciences show, not only the world, but the social sciences, will suffer. It is time that the social sciences were lifted to a new plane of scholarship and of scientific and academic recognition. For the leadership of this twentieth-century world should belong to the social sciences, not to the physical sciences; and this needs to be both said and recognized.

The Alpha Zeta Pi Society (taking as its motto Aristotle's dictum, *Anthropos zoön politikon*) was founded at the University of Missouri in 1915 to do this work of lifting the social sciences to a new plane of scholarship and of recognition. Strangely enough, the society was initiated by one not directly specializing on the problems of the social life—by Professor Max F. Meyer, professor of experimental psychology at the University of Missouri. He saw that there was need of a society to do for the social sciences what Sigma Xi was doing for the sciences of physical nature—to secure them recognition, to promote their academic interests, and to encourage research and scholarship in them among both students and faculty. It is not particularly to the credit of academic men in the social sciences that Professor Meyer's idea was not taken up enthusiastically and local branches of the society organized in all leading institutions; for the society exists, not to confer another honorific decoration, but for serious work.

It may be said that we already have the American Historical Association, the American Economic Association, the American Political Science Association, the American Sociological Society, and similar bodies. But these are not strictly academic societies, and they cannot perform the work which Alpha Zeta Pi is designed to accomplish any more than the American Zoölogical Society can perform the work of Sigma Xi.

The undersigned happens to be the president of the local chapter of Alpha Zeta Pi at the University of Missouri for the current academic year. He will be glad to render any assistance he can in organizing chapters in other institutions. No national organization has yet been formed. It is not for the University of Missouri chapter to say what conditions will govern admission to a national organization if such should ever be formed. That the national organization would have to determine. In the meantime I would urge that in all institutions where it is desired to promote high standards of scholarship in the social sciences similar societies be organized, if possible on broad lines, including all faculty members who have a genuine interest in the scientific study of the social life and all Seniors and graduate students who show decided promise of achievement in those lines.

CHARLES A. ELLWOOD

CENTRAL COLLEGE

Mr. C. C. Church, of the University of Chicago, has been elected to the position of professor of history and social science.

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

Dr. Jesse F. Steiner, of the University of Chicago, has accepted an appointment for one year in the absence of Assistant Professor W. H. Parker, who was granted a year's leave of absence for war service. Dr. Steiner will teach the courses in practical sociology and serve as associate superintendent of the local charity organization society.

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Professor Bird T. Baldwin, formerly of Swarthmore College, has accepted the directorship of the recently established Bureau of Child Welfare.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

Professor C. A. Ellwood, the chairman of the department of Sociology, has been elected for the present year the president of the local chapter of Alpha Zeta Pi, an honorary society designed to promote the interests of the social sciences.

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

Mr. Clarence L. Northcutt, of the University of Chicago, has accepted an appointment to a position in sociology.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Professor C. J. Galpin, of the University of Wisconsin, gave seven addresses at the Country Rural Life Conference which was held in connection with the summer session.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Professor C. C. North has been granted leave of absence for a year to represent the American Recreation and Playground Association for the Training Camp Commission in the organization of communities to solve the problems arising from the location of camps in their vicinity.

Mr. Donald R. Taft, of Columbia University, and Mr. Frederic M. Thrasher, of the University of Chicago, have accepted appointments as instructors in sociology.

REED COLLEGE

Mr. Paul Douglas, of the University of Illinois, has been elected instructor in sociology.

ST. PAUL'S SEMINARY

Father Paul Perigord, formerly Professor of Sacramental Theology in St. Paul's Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota, and now a lieutenant in the French army, is an instructor in the officers' training camp at Camp Devons, Ayer, Massachusetts.

TEXAS SCHOOL OF CIVICS AND PHILANTHROPY

Mr. Stuart A. Queen, secretary of the State Board of Charities and Corrections of California, accepted the position as first director of this recently established school of social work. The Texas School of Civics and Philanthropy is in Houston, Texas, and has the entire Southwest as its field for the training of social workers. Mr. Queen is a graduate of Pomona College and was a graduate student for three years at the University of Chicago.